Board Meeting of January 15, 2026

A telephone/zoom conference meeting of the Joint Meeting of Essex and Union Counties was held on the above date. Chairperson Florio was in the chair.

The Executive Director read the following statement:

Pursuant to Section #5, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, notice of this meeting has been provided to the public by posting and maintaining the annual notice of the regular meetings of the Joint Meeting on the bulletin board of the Maplewood Municipal Building, by mailing the annual notice of the regular meetings for 2026 to the Star Ledger, The Home News Tribune and to the offices of the Municipal Clerks of the 11 member municipalities of the Joint Meeting and to the City Clerk of the City of Elizabeth and to the County Clerks of the Counties of Essex and Union all on December 26, 2025.

On roll call the following board members were present: Messrs. Krakoviak, Petrosky, Leneus, Serruto, Crisafulli, Ramos and Florio. Ms. Frederic, and Ms. Adams.
Absent: Ms. Bonanno and Ms. Collum.

Also, in attendance were Director Johnson; Messrs. F. Bonaccorso, A. Akinokun, J. Volpe, J. Kelly and L. Berkeley Esq. of the Joint Meeting; J. Noble McDonnell Esq. and E. Webster Esq. of Connell Foley LLP; J. Burke Esq. of Antonelli Kantor Rivera; N. Towers, H. Sicknick and J. Bonaccorso of CME Associates; R. LaMendola of AVA Consulting; David Leun of CDM Smith; Julie Needham of Echo Valley Advisors, LLC; Bob Butvilla of Suplee Clooney and Nathan Burroughs of Taurus Advisory Group.

Director Johnson introduced new board members, Dan Crisafulli (Summit) and Jamie Serruto (Millburn).

Mr. Webster led the nomination for new Chairperson (R-001/26), Mr. Florio nominated Mr. Ramos for Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Frederic. All in favor of nomination, nays, none.

Director Johnson led the swearing-in of the newly elected Chairperson, Mr. Ramos.

Chairperson Ramos led the nomination for new Vice Chairperson/Secretary (R-002/26). Ms. Frederic nominated Mr. Florio for Vice Chairperson/Secretary, seconded by Mr. Krakoviak. All in favor of nomination, nays, none.

Director Johnson led the swearing-in of the newly elected Vice Chairperson/Secretary, Mr. Florio.

Chairperson Ramos led the nomination for Treasurer (R-003/26). Mr. Ramos nominated Mr. Leneus for Treasurer, seconded by Ms. Frederic. All in favor of nomination, nays, none

Director Johnson led the swearing-in of the newly elected Treasurer, Mr. Leneus.

On motion by Ms. Adams, seconded by Ms. Frederic, Resolution (R-004/26) Designation

of Newspaper was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

Provisions have been made in accordance with the new laws advising that starting in March 2026, public notices will be on the Joint Meeting website and will provide the link to access approved newspapers digitally. Chairperson Ramos asked that the Joint Meeting expand where we advertise locally for new platforms in 2027. Currently, the Joint Meeting utilizes Ion Wave for RFBs, RFPs and RFQs.

On motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Mr. Leneus, Resolution (R-005/26) Designation of Banks was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Krakoviak, seconded by Mr. Florio, Resolution (R-006/26) Bank Signatories was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

On motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Mr. Serruto, Resolution (R-007/26) Cash Management Plan was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

The approval of December 18, 2025, minutes was tabled to address concerns identified by Mr. Krakoviak.

On motion by Mr. Florio, seconded by Ms. Frederic, the Treasurer's report was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from the Board or any additions from the staff for the following reports:

Staff Reports –The Treatment Plant, Industrial, Pretreatment, Financial Reports, 2024 Audit Report and 2026 Annual Assessment Report.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions from the Board or any additions from the professionals for the following reports:

Professionals Reports - General Counsel Report, (Connell Foley, LLP), the Labor and Employment Counsel Report (Antonelli Kantor Rivera), the Special Conflict and Pretreatment Violations Counsel Report(s) (Antonelli Kantor Rivera), the Engineering Report (CME Associates), and the CSO Report (CDM Smith).

On motion by Ms. Adams, second by Mr. Krakoviak, all Staff and Professional Reports having been mailed to the Board members were received and ordered printed were adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

P&P Committee Chair stated that all the P&P Agenda Resolutions (R-009/26 – R-018/26) have been reviewed by the Committee and are recommended for approval by the Board as a part of a consent agenda. A brief explanation of each resolution will be given before the conclusion of this meeting.

Chairperson Ramos asked Director Johnson read the following statement:

All agenda items with an asterisk (*) are considered to be non-controversial by the Board and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for separate roll call vote, in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

The following verbal report was given (A brief explanation of each resolution was provided by Director Johnson): Resolution (R-009/26) 2026 First Quarter Assessment, Resolution (R-010/26) Appreciation to Annette Romano, Resolution (R-011/26) Appreciation to Delia Hamlet, Resolution (R-012/26) Awarding Contract to Aubrey Group, LLC for Purposes of Submitting a Grant Application to the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education NJ Career Accelerator Internship Grant Program, Resolution (R-013/26) Awarding Contract to Preferred Local Government (PLG) for Providing Primary Building Stair Repairs, Resolution (R-014/26) Authorizing a Contract to Taurus Advisory Group, LLC for Energy Agent and Procurement Consultant Services, Resolution (R-015/26) Awarding Contract to Polydyne LLC for Furnishing and Delivering Dry Bulk Polymer, Resolution (R-016/26) Authorizing a Purchase Order to Hazmat Diagnostic, LLC for Providing Primary Building Staircase Repairs, Resolution (R-017/26) Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education NJ Career Accelerator Internship Grant Program, Resolution (R-018/26) Authorizing the Executive Director to sign Energy Supply Contracts with winning bidders in the Online Energy Auctions for 2026.

On motion by Mr. Florio, seconded by Mr. Petrosky, Resolutions (R-009/26 – R-018/26) were adopted. On Roll Call: ayes, Messrs. Petrosky, Krakoviak, Leneus, Crisafulli, Serruto, Florio and Ramos; Ms. Frederic, Ms. Adams; nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Krakoviak, seconded by Ms. Adams, Resolution (R-008/26) Payment of Bills was adopted. On motion all in favor, nays, none

There was correspondence in the form of Board Member Appointment Letters from East Orange, Millburn, Roselle Park and Summit; and the Elizabeth Fourth Quarter Adjustment.

The Chairperson asked for a motion to go into public comment. On motion to open public comments by Mr. Florio, seconded by Ms. Frederic, the public comment portion of the meeting was opened. The Chairperson asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board on any Joint Meeting matters with a five-minute limit. Hearing no one, the public comment session was declared closed. The Chairperson asked for a motion to close public comment. On motion to close public comment by Mr. Krakoviak, seconded by Ms. Adams. On motion all in favor, nays, none.

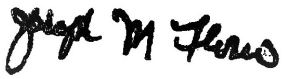
There was no closed session. Mr. Webster did acknowledge that correspondence received by Board members prior to the January Regular meeting would be addressed in closed session at the Regular February Board meeting.

There was no unfinished business.

Under new business, Next Meeting date is February 19, 2026.

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Frederic, seconded by Ms. Adams, the meeting then adjourned at 4:44 pm. The next meeting scheduled is February 19, 2026, unless the Chair provides other notice. On motion all in favor to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary
Joseph M. Florio